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United States Senate

February 23, 2018

Thomas DiNanno
Assistant Administrator, Grants Program Directorate
Federal Emergency Management Agency
400 C Street SW, 3N
Washington, DC 20472-3635

Re: Richmond Fire Department FY 2017 AFG application – EMW-2017-FO-02784

Dear Mr. DiNanno:

As Senator from the State of Indiana, I am working to ensure that all communities have the safety equipment needed to fully address the security of the area they serve. It can be especially challenging for smaller communities to acquire the equipment needed.

The Richmond Fire Department (RFD) serves nearly 36,000 residents of the city which is the county seat of Wayne County located in east central Indiana. In addition it protects the rural and industrial areas of the county. RFD needs to replace its outdated Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and associated equipment without delay in order to provide its firefighters with the protection needed for fire and rescue calls.

If RFD receives this grant, they will be able to purchase 60 new SCBA packs, as well as extra face pieces. This upgraded equipment will replace outdated and obsolete equipment, and bring all SCBA up to NPFA standard. It is needed to adequately protect first responders during hazardous operations.

A well-equipped fire department is essential to the safety of our citizens. I encourage a favorable review of the Richmond Fire Department application for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant in accordance with U.S. law and public policy. I would appreciate being notified when a decision is made. Questions and announcements can be directed to my office by contacting Marianne Black at Marianne_Black@donnelly.senate.gov or by telephone at (317) 226-5555.

Sincerely,



Joe Donnelly
United States Senator